



Criminal Division

Executive Registry
82-5442

Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

JUNE 29, 1982

Honorable William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

The Department of Justice currently is reviewing the problems associated with protecting the physical safety of certain Federal officials. Specifically, our review has focused on the fact that no Federal agency has express authority to provide physical protection to certain high-level Federal officials, including some Members of the Cabinet.

In some situations where physical protection of an official was deemed necessary, certain agencies have assigned their own employees to protect the official, and have arranged for the protecting employees to be designated as Special Deputy U. S. Marshals, thereby granting to these employees all of the general law enforcement powers of a Deputy U. S. Marshal, including authorization to carry firearms. In addition, various agencies have requested Special Deputation for employees having other security or investigative duties.

The Department of Justice is considering proposing legislation which would establish a special protective unit within the U. S. Marshals Service, for the purpose of providing physical protection to Federal officials, as an alternative to granting Special Deputy status to protective personnel. In our view, a protective unit, under the supervision and control of the U. S. Marshals Service, would have the capability of providing more effective protection to a significant number of high-level Federal officials.

In order to evaluate this problem and the need for such legislation, we are attempting to ascertain the number of Federal officials that have received physical protection since January 1, 1981, the number of employers assigned to furnish this protection, and the nature and extent of protection

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afforded. Accordingly, we would appreciate your assistance in this matter by furnishing your agency's responses to the following questions. In your responses, please consider Inspector General and contract employees if applicable to your agency. Please feel free to furnish any additional comments or observations pertinent to this matter.

- (1) Since January 1, 1981, have any of your employees been assigned to provide physical protection to any Federal official? If so, please identify the protectees by title, the number of employees assigned to protective duties, the nature and extent of the protection afforded, and the legal authority for providing such protection.
- (2) Since January 1, 1981, has your agency declined the request of any Federal official for protective services? If so, how many such requests were received, and in each case, how was the perceived need for protection ultimately resolved?
- (3) Since January 1, 1981, has any employee of your agency been granted Special Deputy Marshal status? If so, what functions do these employees perform which require such authority?

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated. Please contact Mr. Arthur Norton of the Criminal Division (724-7526) if you have any questions or comments concerning this matter.

Sincerely,



D. Lowell Jensen
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division